

CAPSULE SUMMARY

Reed House

HA-2068

326 Catherine Street

Bel Air, Harford County

1951 c.

Private

The Reed House is located at 326 Catherine Street in Bel Air, Maryland and was designed by Duryea Cameron in 1951. This modern-style dwelling is two stories in height with an early 1960s one-story, concrete-block wing, also designed by Cameron. Both sections of the house are capped with a flat roof. The first story of the main block is constructed of concrete blocks and the wood-frame second story is clad with board-and-batten siding. The second story overhangs the first story on portions of the elevations. Rising above the flat roof is one interior-side brick chimney on the northeast elevation.

The Reed House is important as a rare example of a modest Modern-style house within the town limits of Bel Air, Maryland. The Reed House was designed by Duryea Cameron and built in 1951 for Charles and Lois Reed. Duryea Cameron was the son of Mr. Reed's law partner, Broadnax Cameron, Sr. Very few Modern-style houses exist in Bel Air that were not mass produced as speculative housing in entire residential developments. The Reed House is also important as a collaborative work between the local architect, Duryea Cameron, and Lois B. Reed, who had a deep background in design and the arts. The Reeds were prominent citizens in Bel Air involved in numerous facets of public life. Charles Reed, remembered as a selfless lawyer, served as the town attorney, President of the Harford County Board of Education and was a major proponent of school integration in the 1960s. The Reeds also founded with several other local families the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church in Bel Air during the early 1960s.

7. Description

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Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Exterior Description

The Reed House is located at 326 Catherine Street in Bel Air, Maryland and was designed by Duryea Cameron in 1951. Facing southeast, it is sited on a level grassy lot fronted with foundation plantings and surrounded with numerous large trees and shrubs. It is set back from the road and is on an approximately one-half acre lot. This modern-style dwelling is two stories in height with an early 1960s one-story, concrete-block wing, also designed by Cameron. Both sections of the house are capped with a flat roof. The first story of the main block is constructed of concrete blocks and the wood-frame second story is clad with board-and-batten siding. The second story overhangs the first story on portions of the elevations. Rising above the flat roof is one interior-side brick chimney on the northeast elevation.

The first story of the façade (southeast elevation) has two pair of 1x1 wood 1-light casement windows. Each of the first story windows on each elevation have rowlock brick sills. Each of the casement windows are covered with 2-light wood storm windows. The second story of the façade is pierced with two pair of 1x1 wood 1-light casement windows. Each of the windows in the wood-frame second story feature thin square-edged wood surrounds. The basement of the façade has two 1-light metal awning windows each with concrete-block wells. The façade of the one-story wing contains one 3-light/2-panel wood door with a brass knob, a wood sill, and is covered with a 1-light glass storm door. Above this entry extending to the eaves the wall is clad with board-and-batten siding. The façade of this wing is pierced with a one 1-light fixed wood window.

Continuing to the southwest elevation, the first story of the main block is pierced with one pair of 1x1 casements. The first story is also pierced with a row of windows and doors adjacent to one another that include a 1-light sidelight, 1-light glass double doors, two 1-light sidelights, and one 1-light glass door. The second story contains three pairs of 1x1 wood casement windows. The basement is illuminated with four 1-light metal awning windows with concrete-block wells. The southwest elevation of the one-story wing is pierced with two pair of 1x1 casement windows.

The rear elevation of the main block features four pairs of 1x1 casement windows, of which two pair are missing storm windows and appear to be replacement windows. The material of the windows was not determined at the time of the exterior survey. The second story is pierced with a ribbon of three 1-light awning windows and one 2/2 double-hung, horizontal-sash wood window. The rear elevation of the one-story wing contains one pair of 1x1 casement windows. The hyphen between the main block and the one-story wing appears to have had an exterior entry, which has been boarded over with vertical board.

Finally, the first story of the northeast elevation of the main block is pierced with one flush wood door covered with a 1-light glass storm door flanked by a 1-light sidelight. This entry has a square-edged wood door sill. The second story of the main block is pierced with two 1-light awning windows with 1-light storm windows. This story also contains two pairs of 1x1 casement windows. The northeast elevation of the one-story wing contains three 1-light fixed wood windows with brick rowlock sills.

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Interior Description

Access to the interior was not provided at the time of the 2005 survey of 326 Catherine Street. Information was provided by Susan Reed Walls, the oldest daughter of Charles and Lois Reed, the original owners of the house.

The Reed House has a spacious interior consisting of an integral living and dining room space with a kitchen and bathroom at the rear of the house. The second floor is accessed by a straight-flight stair on the northeast wall. Four bedrooms and a bathroom are located on the second floor.

The side entry on the northeast wall opens into a small foyer and several steps ascend up to the living room. A fireplace is located on the northeast wall of the living room. A partial partition wall separates the living room and the dining room, however, both spaces are predominantly open to one another. The dining room opens out to the deck on the southwest elevation, which was built by Susan R. Walls' husband in 1974. Access to the kitchen at the rear of the dining room is through a centrally placed door on the northwest wall.

At the front of the house on the second floor is the master bedroom, which runs the entire width of the house. A corridor extends from the stair to the bathroom at the rear of the house. Each of the four bedrooms are accessed through this corridor. Closets line the northeast wall above the staircase. The bathroom was unusual in that it consisted of three distinct spaces. The northeast wall of the bathroom had two small separate rooms for the toilet and the bath, making the bathroom a space that could have several occupants at one time.

The apartment built for Marguerite Butterworth, Lois Reed's mother, at the north corner of the house contains one large space with a half bath on the southeast wall. The basement in the main block was used by Lois Reed as her art studio.

8. Significance

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Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates 1951 Architect/Builder Cameron Duryea

Construction dates 1951

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

Statement of Significance

The Reed House is important as a rare example of a modest Modern-style house within the town limits of Bel Air, Maryland. The Reed House was designed by Duryea Cameron and built in 1951 for Charles and Lois Reed. Duryea Cameron was the son of Mr. Reed's law partner, Broadnax Cameron, Sr. Very few Modern-style houses exist in Bel Air that were not mass produced as speculative housing in entire residential developments. The houses on the surrounding blocks to 326 Catherine Street range in date from the late 1880s through the 1940s and 1950s exhibiting varying styles such as Eastlake, Queen Anne, Colonial Revival, Craftsman, Cape Cods, and Modern. Only one other example of a rare Modern-style house in this area is the Getz-Marzicola House at 343 West Gordon Street built in 1958. The Reed House is also important as a collaborative work between the local architect, Duryea Cameron, and Lois B. Reed, who had a deep background in design and the arts. The Reeds were prominent citizens in Bel Air involved in numerous facets of public life. Charles Reed, remembered as a selfless lawyer, served as the town attorney, President of the Harford County Board of Education and was a major proponent of school integration in the 1960s. The Reeds also founded with several other local families the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church in Bel Air during the early 1960s.

Development of Bel Air: Late 19th and Mid 20th Century

The proximity to Baltimore City, the arrival of the railroad, the introduction of the automobile, and improvement of roads allowed for greater prosperity within Harford County and particularly the Town of Bel Air. Bel Air was home to a building boom of the late nineteenth century and again after World War I. Hays, Richardson's, and the two Dallam's Additions are the primary residential developments of the late 19th century and early 20th century that took place within the Bel Air town limits.

Hays Addition is bounded on the south by Baltimore Pike, to the west by Archer Street, to the north by Thomas Street, and to the east by Bond Street. The Hays Addition was platted in 1886 and only three lots sold at this time. Between 1887 and 1917 only nine more lots were sold in this section of Bel Air. Marilyn M. Larew, historian, states that the reason for the slow building pace in Hays Addition could be the lots were priced much higher than lots in other sections of Bel Air such as in Dallam's Additions and Richardson's Addition.¹

¹ Marilyn M. Larew, *Bel Air: An Architectural and Cultural History, 1782-1945* (Bel Air, MD: Town of Bel Air, 1995), p. 170.

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The boundaries for Richardson's Addition are Bond Street to the east, Alice Anne Street to the south, Richardson Street to the west, and Nichols Street on the north. Lots began selling in 1886, however, it was not officially platted and recorded until 1911. By 1917, fifteen houses stood along Alice Anne Street, which became an African-American working class neighborhood. Not including the dwellings on Alice Anne Street, seventeen houses were constructed in Richardson's Addition between 1914 and 1945.²

Major Dallam's Addition was platted in 1883 and the boundaries are the MA & PA Railroad to the south, Dallam Avenue to the north, Rockspring Avenue to the east, and several lots past Mast Street to the west. Due to the proximity to the railroad, several lots were built upon for industrial and commercial uses as well as worker's housing. Dallam's second addition is located to the north of Dallam's first addition including Roland Avenue, Rockspring Avenue, and Hall Street. In the late 1880s, the west side of Rockspring Avenue was built upon followed by construction on Roland Avenue after 1890. Eleven houses were constructed in Dallam's second addition between 1885 and 1914.³

Following World War I, Bel Air prospered with numerous suburban developments on the outskirts of the downtown core. Three of the larger additions to Bel Air during the 1920s include Fulford Park (1922), Ingleside (1923), and Kenmore (1924). The area that is Fulford Park originally was made up of 18 acres running from Main Street and Fulford Avenue, South to Linwood Avenue, and East to Ewing Street. Other streets included in Fulford Park are Maitland Street and Powell Avenue. Unlike the slow development of the late 19th century developments of Hays and Richardson's Additions, the lots in Fulford Park sold quickly and construction began immediately. The real estate agents responsible for selling the lots of Fulford Park advertised and auctioned the lots on one day in 1922 soon after it was platted. One hundred thirty six lots sold in one day bringing in a total of \$12,000.

The area known as Ingleside off North Hickory Avenue is bounded by Wright Street to the south and McCormick Lane to the north. This section of Bel Air was subdivided and platted by J. Edwin Webster, son of Colonel Edwin Hanson Webster, in April 1923. Oliver T. Wallace and Samuel Dameron were the real estate agents responsible for the sales. According to Larew, Ingleside was the "place to build between the wars" and continued to expand after 1945.⁴ Similar to Fulford Park, Ingleside held an auction to handle the sales of the lots which occurred in April or May of 1923. Ingleside developed rapidly, much more so than any other previous development made to Bel Air. According to Larew, the "first two blocks on East Broadway and Webster were full" by the end of the 1920s. A total of sixteen houses were constructed in the 1920s—"faster than any previous addition in town."⁵

In 1919, Robert and Anne Heighe purchased 99 acres of Hanway's farm, which was platted in 1924 by the local real estate firm of Vaughn, Warren, and Wells, using their namesake for the subdivision. Today, the addition is better known as the Kenmore addition. The lots were auctioned on September 22, 1924 and a total of 199 lots were sold equaling \$19,500.

² Larew, p. 172.

³ Larew, pp. 173-176.

⁴ Larew, pp. 181-183.

⁵ Larew, pp. 181-181.

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Due to the building boom in Harford County in the 1920s and 1930s, the pre-World War I developments in Bel Air were being steadily built upon similar to the new developments of the early 1920s. A section of Dallam's second addition, which includes Hall Street, was re-surveyed and platted in 1931 as the Rock Spring Addition. This new plat consisted of two blocks with a total of 102 lots and is bounded to the north by Vale Road, to the east by Rockspring Avenue, to the south by Hall Street, and to the west by Roland Avenue. Robinson Street runs north south and connects Hall Street to Vale Road, originally called Bel Air-Watervale Road. Block A of Rock Spring Addition was platted with fifty-five lots, the majority of which are equal size of twenty-five feet wide and 100 feet deep. Block B of this addition contains forty-seven lots, most of which were of similar size to the lots in Block A.

After the platting of the Rock Spring Addition, several more residential developments were constructed within the town limits. Development slowed dramatically between the mid-1930s and the early 1950s. Because of the Town's proximity and association to the Aberdeen Proving Ground, a U.S. Army Installation Management Agency, Bel Air experienced a remarkable population decline during the mid- to late-1940s due to the Proving Ground downsizing after World War II. In the early 1950s, Bel Air regained its population numbers as it was experiencing in the 1930s and numerous developments occurred during the 1950s and early 1960s including such examples as Howard Park (1951), Shamrock (1955), and Homestead Village (early 1960s).

Reed House

The modern-style dwelling at 326 Catherine Street was designed by architect Duryea Cameron and constructed by Tom Gentry's Churchville Construction Company in 1951 for Charles Reed, Jr. and his wife, Lois B. Reed. Native to Bel Air, Charles Hopkins Reed (b. 1918) graduated from Princeton University in 1938. He then entered the Navy and served as a Lieutenant during World War II in the South Pacific. On April 10, 1945, Reed married Lois Butterworth, a native of Douglaston on Long Island, New York. Lois Reed (b. 1917) attended the Traphagen School of Design in New York City and worked during the late 1930s and 1940s in garment design. Following the War, Charles Reed graduated from the University of Maryland Law School and the Reeds moved to Bel Air in 1947. At this time, Charles Reed started his own law practice in Bel Air with partner, Albert Close. In 1952, the Reeds and Patty Davis, together purchased an acre lot on Catherine Street on part of a small farm owned by John Carver's mother, Mrs. Harry Carver. Patty Davis was a neighbor to the Reeds and similar to them rented an apartment in the twin dwelling on the Liriodendron Estate owned by Peggy and Fritz Kelly. After dividing the lot, the Reeds settled with a half acre equaling \$1000 next to what was the Carver house, a large Victorian house on the corner of Catherine and Williams Streets.⁶

Sited on this lot, Charles and Lois Reed commissioned Duryea Cameron to design their house, which later became known by local residents as "The Barn."⁷ Lois Reed corroborated with Cameron on the design of the house, which totaled approximately \$15,000 after its completion. Cameron, a local architect, was the son of Brodnax Cameron, Sr., a law partner with Charles Reed in the firm called Cameron and Reed. The Reeds had four children; Susan Louise Reed (b.

⁶ David W. Reed, *Lois Butterworth Reed*, p. 33.

⁷ David W. Reed, *Lois Butterworth Reed*, p. 34.

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1947), David Worthington Reed (b. 1948), Michael Christopher Reed (b. 1950), and Laurie Priscilla Reed (b. 1953), who were all raised at 326 Catherine Street.

Charles Reed worked as a trial lawyer for 44 years in Bel Air, Maryland and for a period of time served as President of the Harford County Bar Association. He was a member of the Maryland Attorneys' Grievance Commission, served as the President of the Harford County Board of Education during school integration in the 1960s, and served as President of the Board of Trustees of the Harford Community College. In the early 1960s, Charles and Lois Reed helped found the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Church in Bel Air. He was also awarded the Distinguished Service Award from his Princeton University Alumni Class of 1938.

Accomplishments of Lois B. Reed include the co-founding of an art school called The Studio in 1960 in Bel Air. She organized the Bel Air Art Show which first started in 1966, and later became known as the Bel Air Festival for the Arts. Lois Reed also founded the Harford Artist Association, helped to found the Town's Appearance and Preservation Committee (now the Appearance & Beautification Committee), and was active on the West Bel Air Civic Association.

Approximately ten years after the construction of 326 Catherine Street, the Reeds constructed the one-story wing on the side elevation to house Lois Reed's mother, Marguerite "Reetie" Butterworth. In 1991, Charles Reed passed away and in 1996, Lois Reed conveyed the property to her four children, while she continued to reside there. On May 27, 2002 Lois Reed died and the following year the Reed children sold the property to Robert Booth and Jeanne Shaw, who use it as a single-family rental property.

Chain-of-Title

All information taken from the Bel Air Courthouse.

January 24, 1890	Grantor: Charles C. Forwood, William S. Forwood, Jr., and E. Hall Richardson and wife, et al Grantee: Rebecca Forwood Deed Book ALJ 67 Folio 1
April 26, 1913	Grantor: John S. Young, et al Grantee: Harry S. Carver Deed Book JAR 139 Folio 423
October 30, 1926	Grantor: Philip H. Close, Attorney Grantee: John L.G. Lee Deed Book DGW 201 Folio 235
September 14, 1931	Grantor: Henry C. Hall, widower Grantee: John L.G. Lee Deed Book SWC 221 Folio 343

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Continuation Sheet

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Reed House Built 1951

August 7, 1951 Grantor: John L.G. Lee and Carolyn Lee, and Benton H. Gross, Jr. and Almenda Gross
Grantee: Charles H. Reed, Jr. and Lois B. Reed
Deed Book GRG 360 Folio 558

Charles H. Reed, Jr. died February 1991

May 1996 Grantor: Lois B. Reed
Grantee: Susan Reed Walls, Michael C. Reed, Laurie P. Reed, and David W. Reed
Deed Book 2388 Folio 841

March 28, 2003 Grantor: Susan Reed Walls, Michael C. Reed, Laurie P. Reed, and David W. Reed
Grantee: Robert Booth and Jeanne Shaw
Deed Book 4551 Folio 442

9. Major Bibliographical References

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Bel Air Courthouse, Land Records. Bel Air, MD

Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City. *Harford County Telephone Directory, 1936, 1950-1951, 1951-1952, 1963*, Baltimore City, MD.

Harford County Historical Society. Vertical Files. Bel Air, MD.

Larew, Marilyn M. *Bel Air: An Architectural and Cultural History, 1782-1945*. Bel Air, MD: Town of Bel Air, MD, 1995.

U.S. Bureau of the Census. The Census of 1920-1930, Harford County, Maryland. Census searched from

< <http://persi.heritagequestonline.com/hqoweb/library> > (7 December 2004).

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 0.50 acres

Acreage of historical setting 0.50 acres

Quadrangle name Bel Air, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

The Reed House is located at 326 Catherine Street in the Third District of Harford County in the Town of Bel Air, Maryland and is associated with tax map 301 parcel 470.

11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Kristie Baynard/Architectural Historian		
organization	Arcadia Preservation, LLC	date	March 8, 2005
street & number	1209 Powhatan Street	telephone	703.798.8124
city or town	Fredericksburg	state	VA

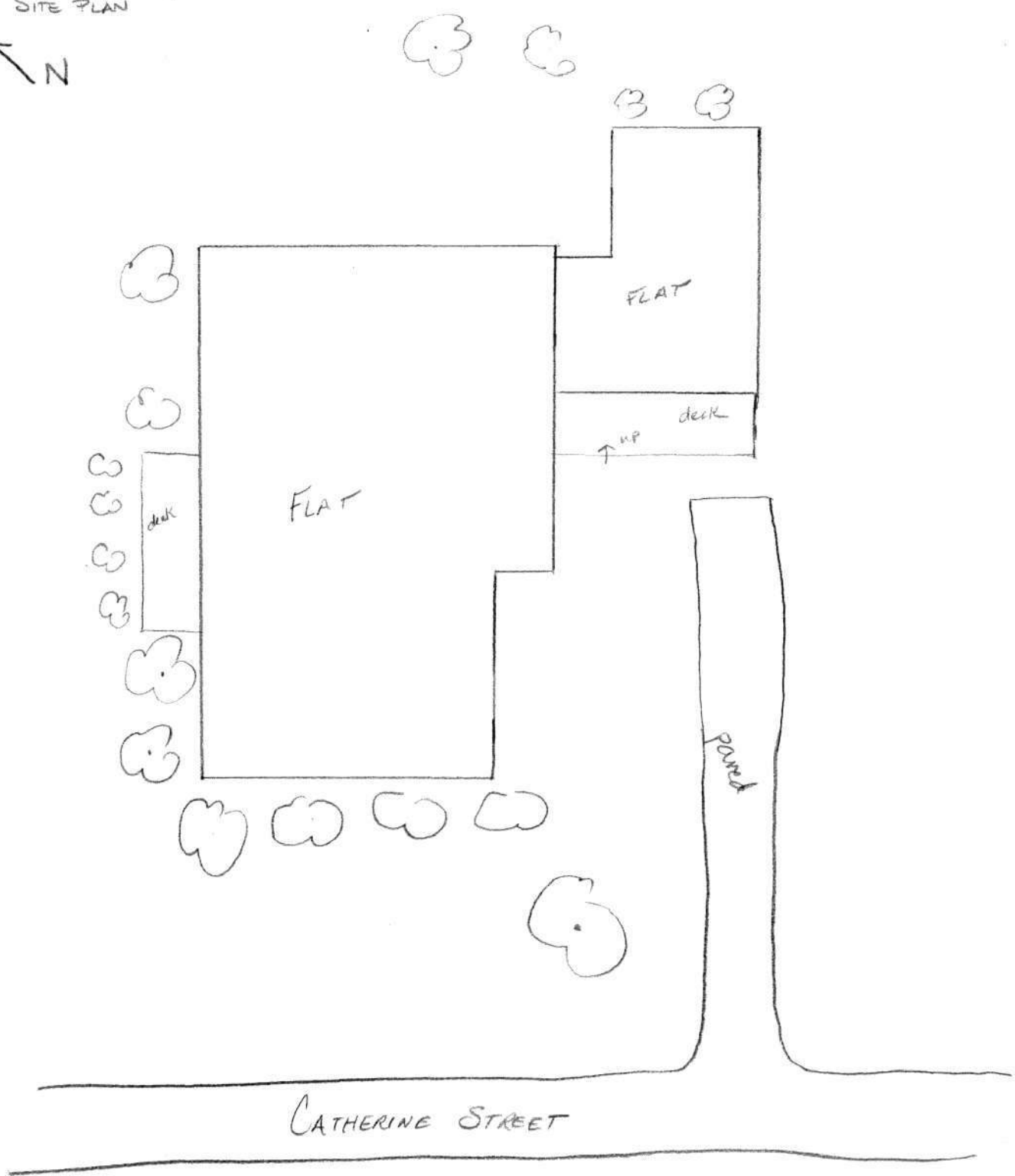
The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to:

Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
410-514-7600

HA-2068
REED HOUSE
326 Catherine Street
BEL AIR
HARFORD COUNTY, MD
SITE PLAN



HA-2068

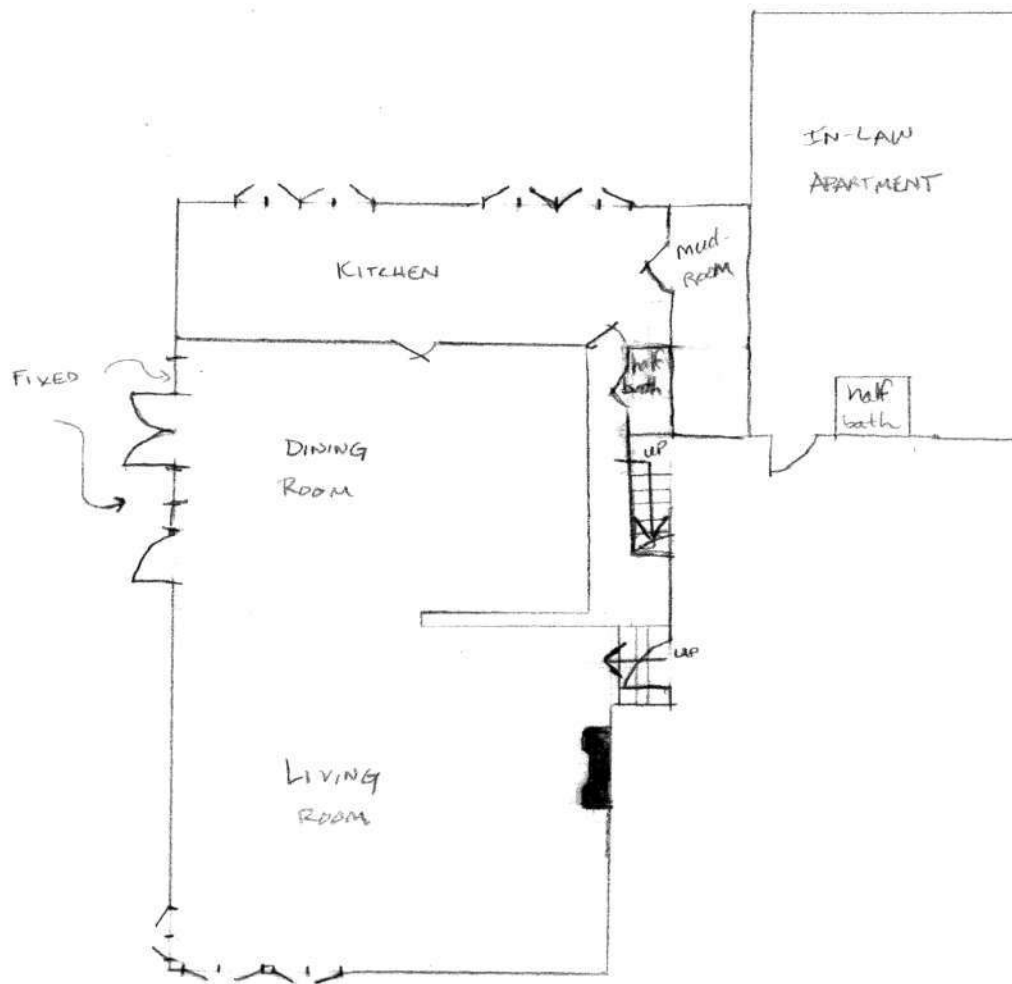
REED HOUSE

326 Catherine Street

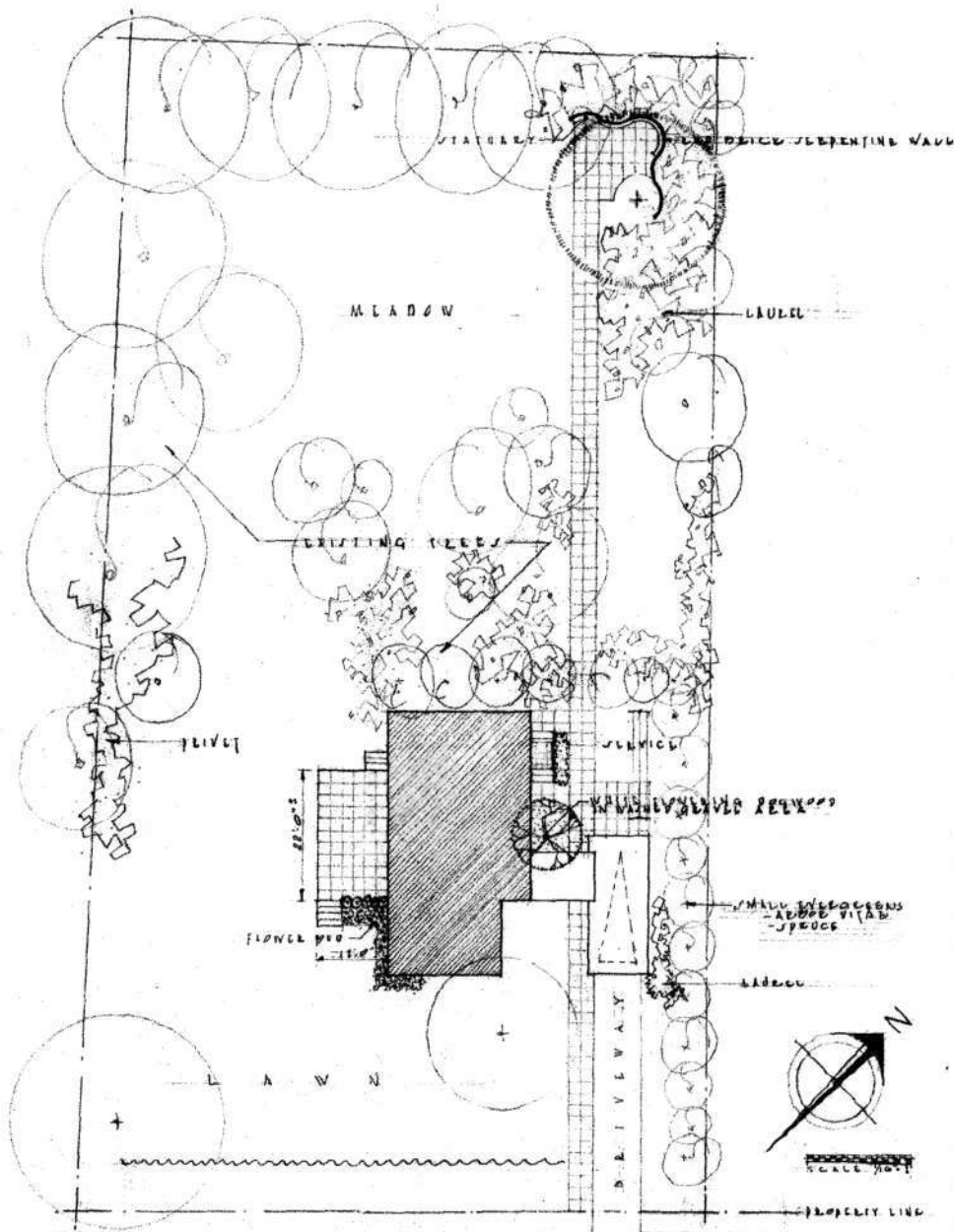
BEL AIR, Harford County, MD

ROUGH SKETCH PLAN OF FIRST FLOOR

Provided by Susan Reed Walls 3/2005



HA-2068

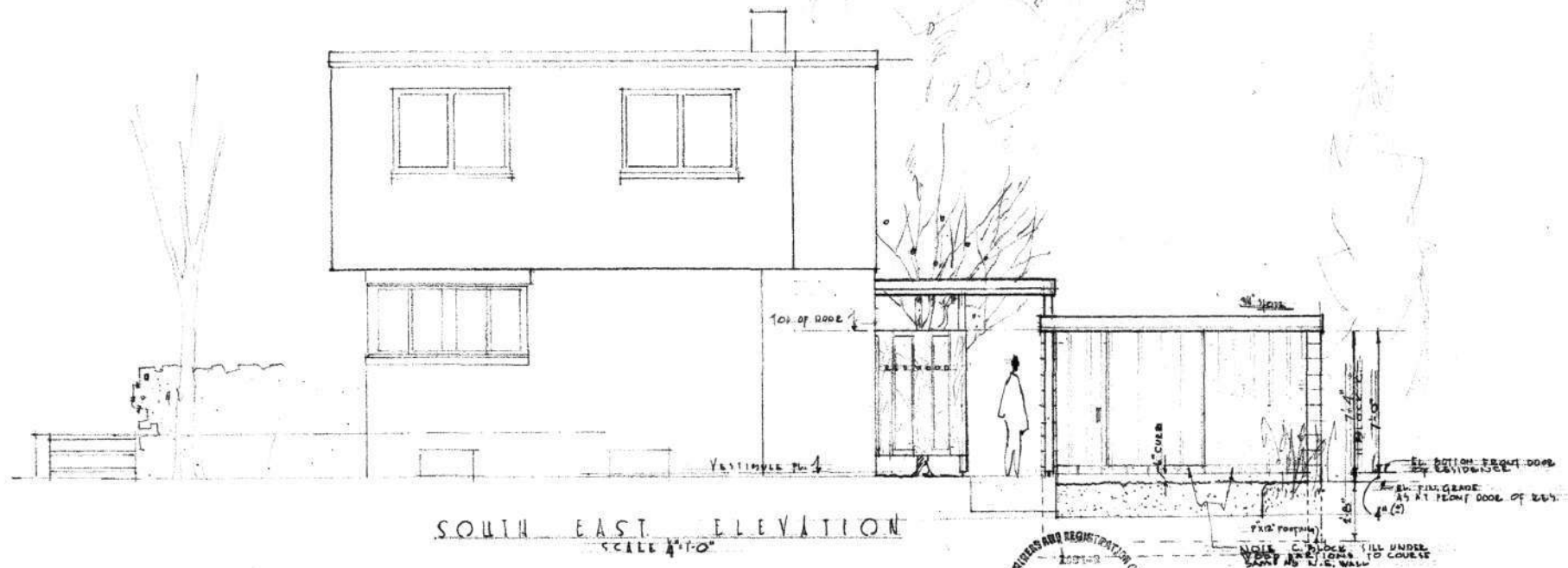


LANDSCAPING SCHEME

1327 NORTH FRONT STREET, HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17102

DURYEA CAMERON ARCHITECT

1327 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102



SOUTH EAST ELEVATION
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



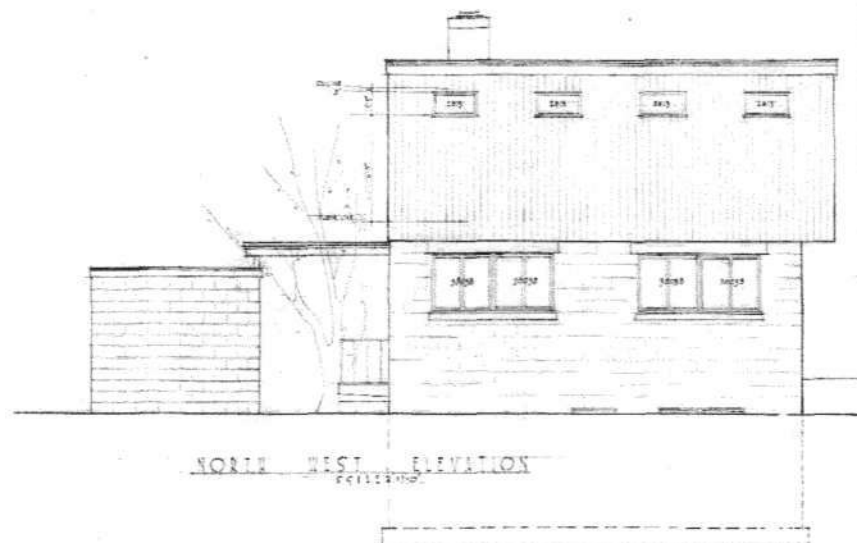
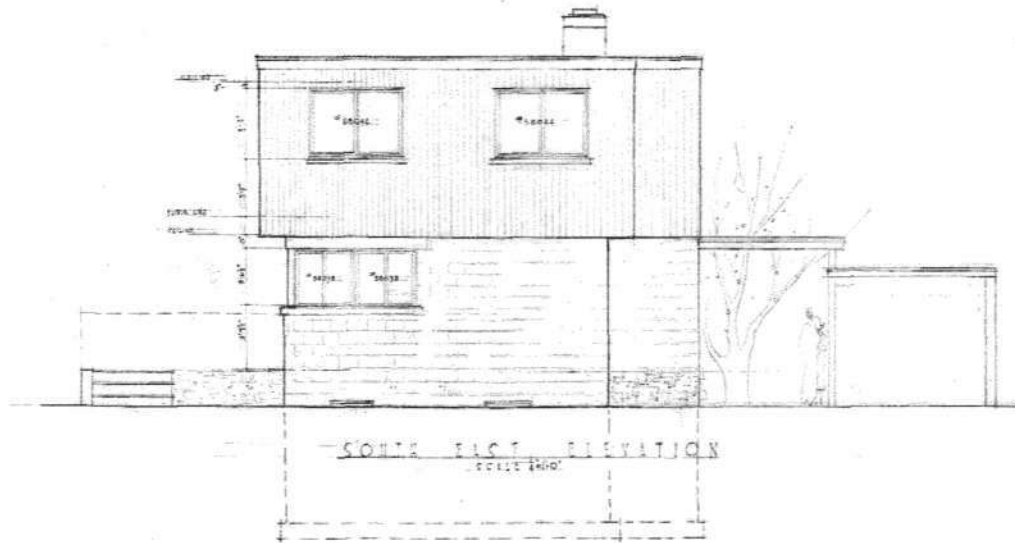
CARPORT & WALKS
C. H. LEE & HOUSE
SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"

DURYEA CAMERON ARCHITECT
1327 North Front Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17102

HA-2068

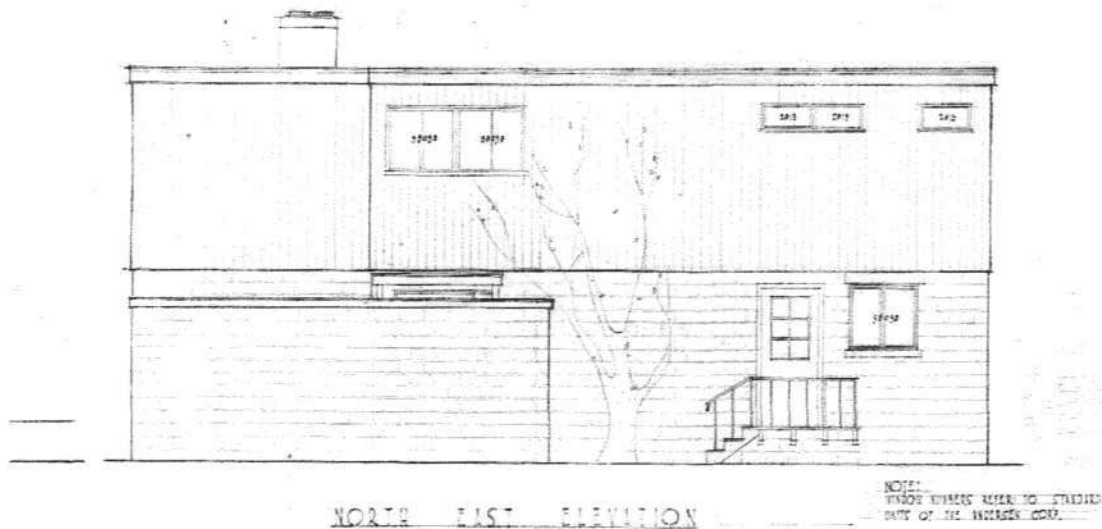
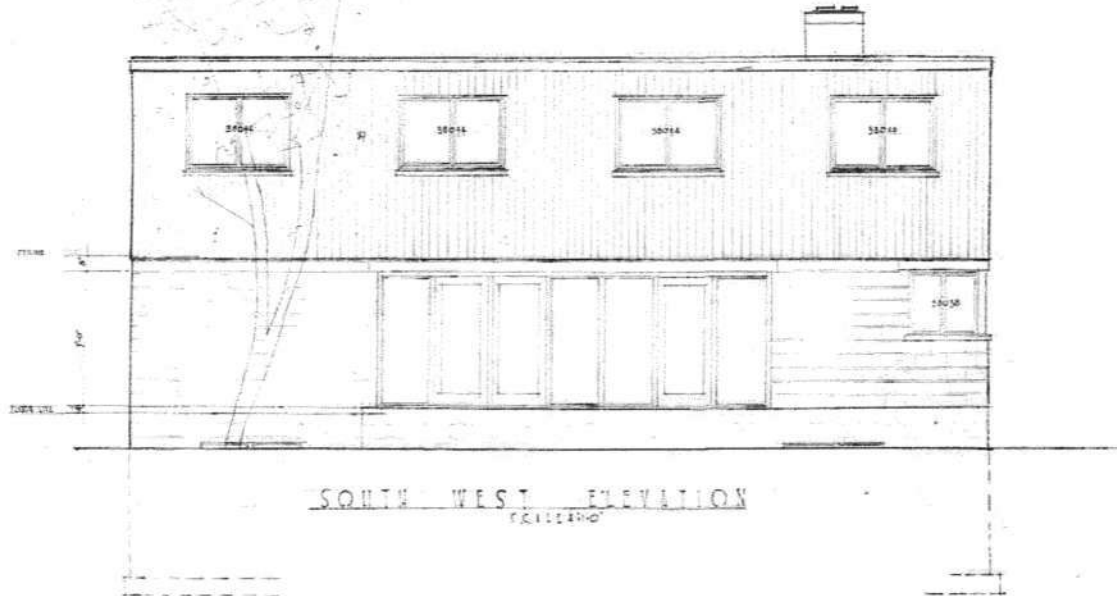
HA-2068

Drawings by Duryea Cameron
Reed House
1951



HA-2068

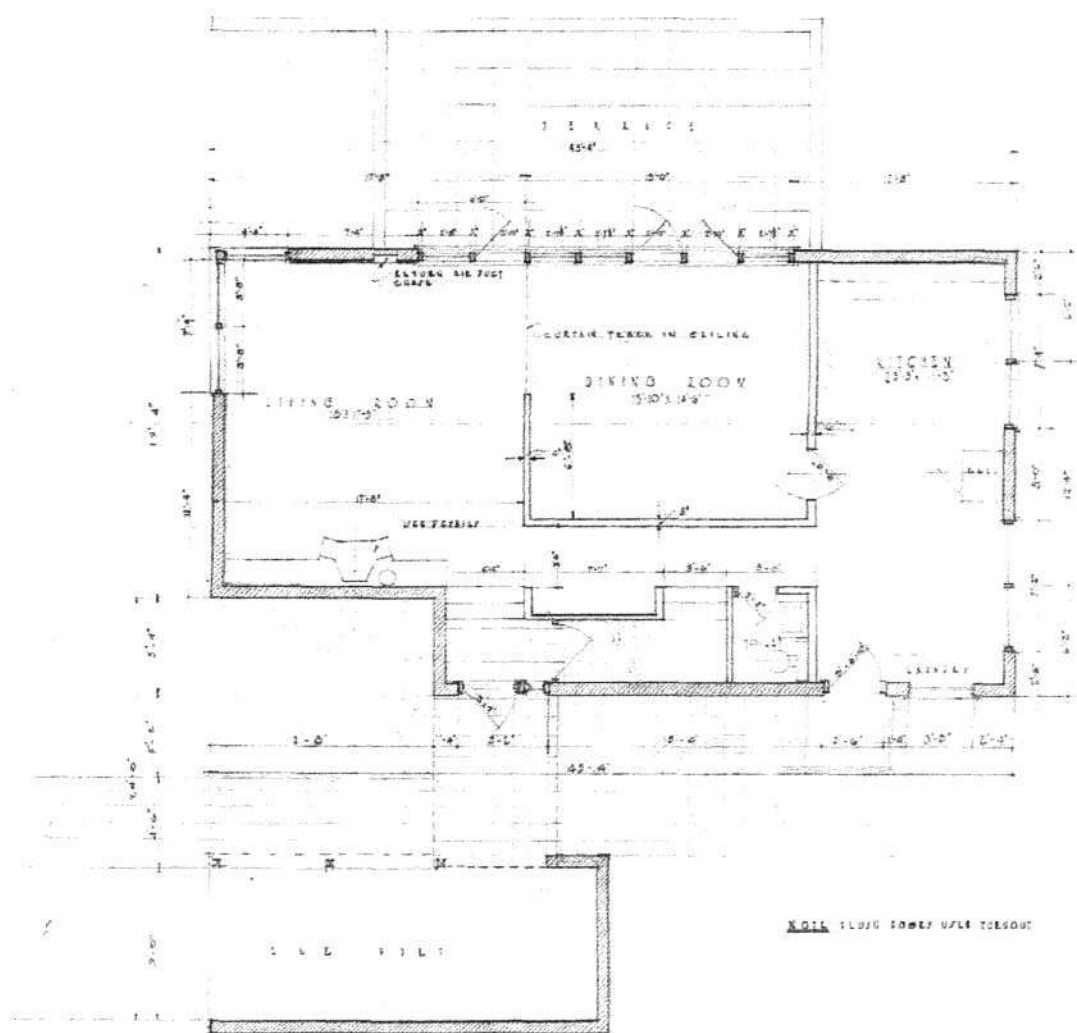
Drawings by Duryea Cameron
Reed House
1951



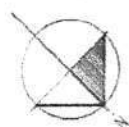
NOTE:
THAT THE HOUSE WAS NOT
BUILT BY THE HOUSES CO.

HA-2068

Drawings by Duryea Cameron
Reed House
1951

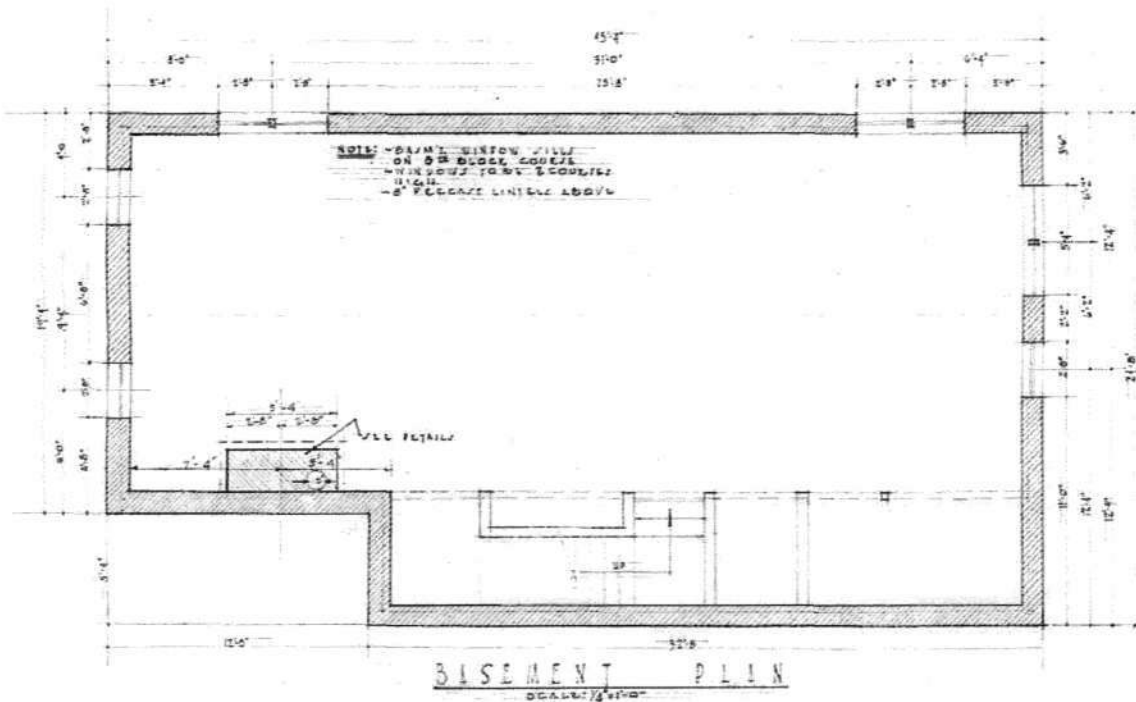
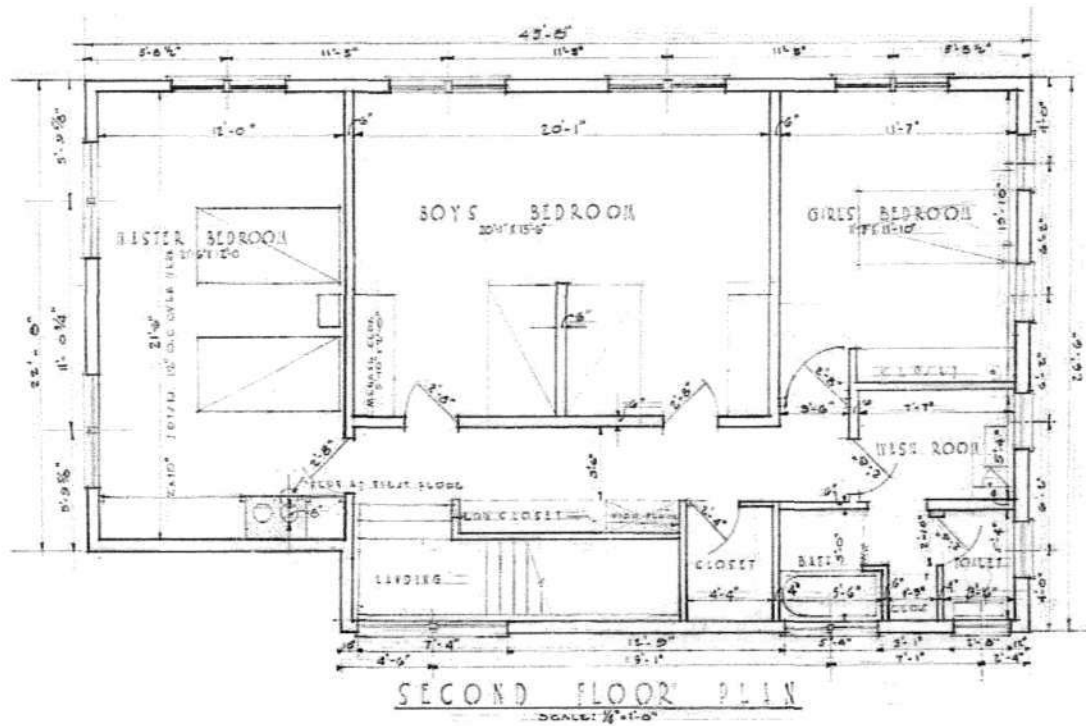


FIRST FLOOR PLAN
 SCALE 1/4" = 1'-0"



HA-2068

Drawings by Duryea Cameron
Reed House
1951



HA-2068
 Reed House
 326 Catherine Street
 Bel Air, Harford County
 Bel Air USGS Map





HA-2068

REED House

326 Catherine St.

Belt Air, Harford County, MD

Arcadia Preservation

12/07

MD SHPO

SE ELEVATION

1 of 4



HA-2068
REED house
326 Catherine St.
Bel Air, Harford County, MD
Arcadia Preservation
12/04
MD SHPD
SOUTH CORNER
2 of 4



HA 2068
REED HOUSE
326 Catherine St.
Bel Air, Harford County, MD
Arcadia Preservation
12/2004
MD SHPO
NORTH CORNER
3 of 4



HA 2068

REED House

326 Catherine St.

Bell Air Harford County, MD

Arcadia Preservation

12/04

AND SHPO

EAST CORNER

4 of 4